



January, 2016 Newsletter

SKATING ISNT AN INDOOR SPORT

We're experiencing a new problem on the Falcon courts and need your help to resolve it. The floors have been extremely slippery. Several players have already gone down. This "skating" on the courts is the result of shoes picking up the ice-melting material on the way into the gym. It's then deposited on the courts during play. Picture running on marbles. Our condition isn't that bad, but the physics is similar.

THERE IS A CURE IT'S EACH OF US

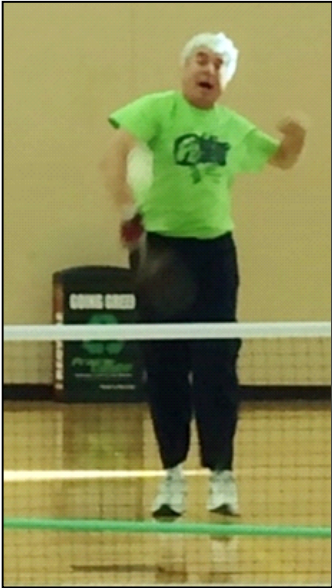
We all want a safe surface on which to play. Together we can assure ourselves of that. Please carry your playing shoes into Falcon. Once you've checked in at the desk, sit down at one of the tables in the lobby and change into them. if we each add this simple act to our routine, problem solved and spills spared.

TRAVEL TEAM DOES US PROUD

On Wednesday, January 6th the Palatine Picklers hit the courts to do battle with the teams from Prairie State (Hoffman), DuPage (players from a few towns there), and what I call Liberty Ridge (combined forces of Libertyville & Park Ridge). Prairie State is known to have the horses and didn't disappoint. However, we did win a few games against them. I think we surprised everyone by finishing second. I was on hand to cheer and snap a few shots for thi newsletter. You'll see some of the action on the next page.

1ST PALATINE PICKLERS TO PLAY

Jeff Degner, Ralph Cook, Jim Roland, Tina Labellarte, Larry Shoemake, Sue Cameron, Marv Zwass, Lynn Perkins, Pam Lindberg, & Scott Stubig appear in action. Sorry I didn't capture Holly Goldsmith or Joan Naughton.



2nd TRAVEL LEAGUE MATCH

This Wednesday, January 20th, sees the second of the ten-match season take place at the Canlan facility just off Pepper Road in Barrington. Matches begin at 10:00 a.m. Representing the Palatine Picklers this time are Liz Chaplinski, Ralph Cook, Linda Gariano, Dana Joseph, Bill Myers, Debbie Myers, Debbie Paneral, Rob Paneral, Bear Shatwell, Larry Shoemake, Scott Stubig, and April Volpe.

Captains seed their men's and ladies' pairs 1 to 3 and their mixed pairs 1-6, Each pair will play the similarly seeded pairs from each of the other three clubs. Scores count, not just wins. For the first play date, Marcie Degner, Don Bextel, and I came to watch the action and cheer our teams. If you'd like to check it out, it's free and there's plenty of seating available. Your support would be welcomed.

PICKLEBALL PEAK PERFORMANCE

What I have been calling the "Seymour clinics" in newsletters are officially clinics conducted by "Pickleball Peak Performance," under the direction of Seymour Rifkind. There's a change coming to the payment structure for these drill sessions in Lincolnshire. Ten-week sessions begin February 1st on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Participants must pay up front for all ten weeks, but there is 10% savings ... you'll pay only \$90 for the ten weeks on the day of your choice. The reason for abandoning the "pay as you go" policy is the facility cannot allow courts to go unused. Prepayment assures the appropriate number of courts will be reserved for PPP clinics.

STAY OUT OF THE KITCHEN

Having seen it come up several times lately at Falcon, reviewing the misunderstood parts of the kitchen rules seems appropriate. Everyone knows you can't be in the kitchen (that includes touching the line), when you play the ball, unless you're playing a ball that just bounced in the kitchen. What many do not know is that you cannot follow-through into the kitchen. That means if your momentum causes you to even touch the kitchen line, regardless of the apparent success of your shot, you lose the point. There's also confusion about the longevity of a follow-through. Simply put, after hitting a shot that didn't bounce in the kitchen, you cannot step into the kitchen any time right up to the moment the ball is next served. The idea that the point is over, when your shot bounced twice without being returned is not exactly right. If, while your opponents are retrieving the ball

after your great shot, you walk into the kitchen to adjust the net or pick up the car key that fell out of your pocket, the rule states that you lost the point after all.

Should you find your momentum about to carry you into the kitchen, can you put your paddle down in the kitchen to regain your balance. Maybe you can, but you lose the point. The paddle counts as part of you, in this case.

You can hop over a corner of the kitchen without penalty. You can stand beside the kitchen to play a shot without penalty. Just stay out of the kitchen ALL the time you're not playing a ball that just bounced in there. And then get out immediately.

SHIRTS BACK IN DEMAND

When I carried 18 Palatine Pickler T-shirts into Falcon a couple weeks ago, I thought all interest in them had been met. Nope. I've been asked to start collecting \$10, \$11, or \$12 from PPC members for the next order of our colorful Ts. \$10 pays for traditional Ts from S to XL. \$11 pays for a v-neck ladies T with fewer color options. \$12 pays for a traditional XXL. Here, again, are the colors from which you may choose.



Find me at Falcon or e-mail me with your desired style, color, and size. When I have been paid for at least 12 shirts, I'll place our next order.

OUR PARK DISTRICT HEARD US

Let's not celebrate too early, but I'm excited to report that the Palatine Park District is looking into sources and prices for glare-eliminating screens for the windows at Falcon. They are also running the Zamboni-like machine over Falcon's floors, to reduce the slipperiness. To that end, remember to take your street shoes off in the lobby, before entering the gym. Thanks.

See you on the courts.

Bear Shatwell, PPC President